



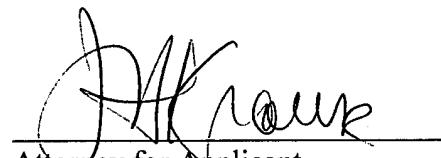
REMARKS

The pending claims of the above-identified application were rejected in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), which applies to prior art patents "by another", in view of the U.S. Patent Application Publication No. U.S. 2002/0187431A1. That publication, however does not relate to an application "by another". Instead, the inventor of the cited publication, Ichiro Tanaka, is the same inventor as in the present application.

Accordingly, it is requested that the rejection of the claims be withdrawn and that the application be allowed.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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